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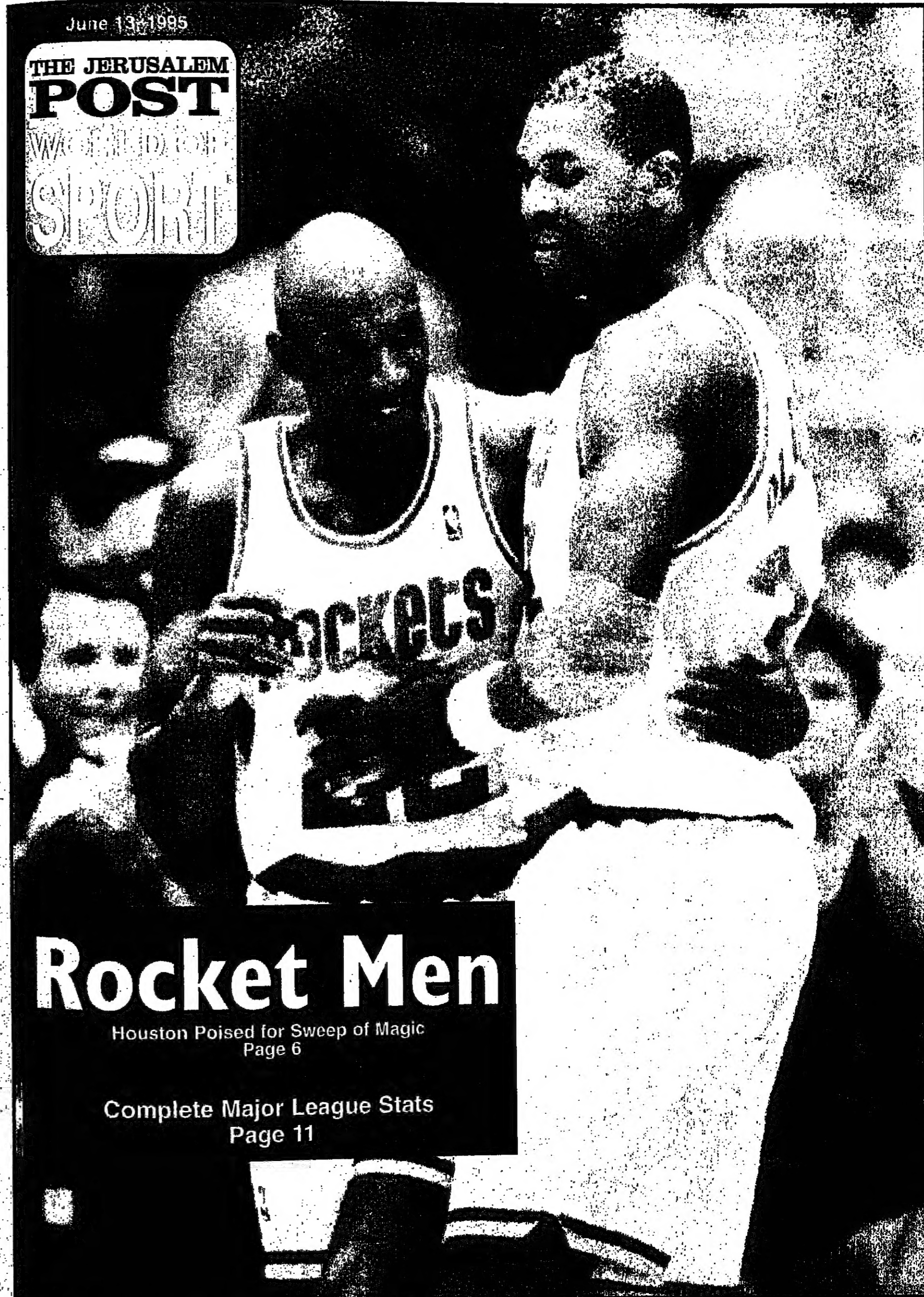
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AIR CANADA
A BREATH OF FRESH AIR

June 13, 1995

THE JERUSALEM
POST
WEDNESDAY
SPORT



Rocket Men

Houston Poised for Sweep of Magic
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McGwire on Fire

A's Primo Slugger Hits
Three Homers
to Beat Red Sox

AL ROUNDUP

MARK MCGWIRE started his personal home run derby impressively and finished it mauler-of-factly.

He hit a 463-foot homer, the longest of the year at Fenway Park, in the second inning and then hit two more in his next two at-bats as the Oakland Athletics beat the Boston Red Sox 8-1 Sunday.

"I saw the ball, I put three good swings on the ball and they left the park, that and the fact that we won the game were all that matter," said McGwire, whose 17 home runs lead the major leagues.

On Saturday, he hit two home runs and is one of the 15 players in major league history to hit five home runs in two games.

It was only the seventh time in Oakland history that a player hit three homers in a game and McGwire has done that twice. His other three-homer game came June 27, 1987 at Cleveland.

"Being older, I am more aware of what I accomplished," McGwire said. "The first time I did it in my rookie year I wasn't totally aware of its significance, it feels better now."

It couldn't have felt very good for Boston starter Zane Smith (1-2), who had not allowed a home run in six previous starts this season. All three McGwire hits were off Smith.

The first pitch Smith threw to McGwire finally stopped on a railroad track outside Fenway Park. "It was a fastball where you don't want to throw it," Smith said.

The victory was Oakland's sixth in eight games and was their second straight over Boston. Oakland has five wins in its last 24 games against Boston.

Despite McGwire's three blasts, Boston trailed 3-0 going into the bottom of the eighth and staged a rally against A's starter Todd Stottlemyre (5-1), cutting the lead to 3-1.

Lee Tinsley started the inning with a double and Troy O'Leary followed with a single to center to put runners on first and third. John Valentin poked a single to right to score Tinsley and A's manager Tony La Russa brought Rick Hoenes out in from the bullpen.

"By far it was our toughest escape of the season," La Russa said of the Red Sox's rally. "But we got our number one relief appearance of the season and we got out of it."

Oakland closed the door on any aspirations of a comeback when it scored five runs in the ninth off Rheal Cormier and Ken Ryan.

Boston has used 13 relievers in the last four games, three of them losses. Eleven of those pitchers have been charged with at least one run. Ryan has been particularly ineffective as he has given up 11 hits and six walks in his last five innings.

Angels 5, Orioles 4

Leo Smith set a major league record with saves in 16 straight appearances, pitching a scoreless ninth inning and preserving visiting California's victory. Smith has gotten a save in every one of his games this year. He led the majors with 33 saves last season for the Orioles, but they did not resign the 37-year-old free agent.

Smith broke the mark of 15 straight games with a save set by Doug Jones in 1988. Jones is now the closer in Baltimore's bullpen, which has converted just eight of 12 save opportunities.

Rex Hudler homered, doubled and tied his career-high with three



LIGHT-FOOTED - Cleveland shortstop Omar Vizquel leaps to avoid Milwaukee's Joe Oliver. (Reuters)

RBI as the Angels avoided being swept for the first time this season. Mark Langston (5-1) gave up nine hits in 6 2/3 innings. Jamie Moyer (1-2) lasted only three innings.

Yankees 10, Mariners 7

Jim Leyritz singled with the bases loaded, highlighting a five-run rally in the eighth inning that led New York to victory.

The Yankees won for only the fifth time in 25 games. They beat Seattle for the first time in six games this season, and prevented the Mariners from completing their first-ever three-game sweep at Yankee Stadium.

Leyritz had four hits, a day after he struck out three times and committed two passed balls in a 3-2 loss. His two-run single, off Bobby Ayala, the sixth Mariners pitcher, drove in the tying and go-ahead runs.

Steve Howe (2-2) was the winner and John Wetteland got his seventh save. Steve Frey (0-2) was the loser.

Indians 11, Brewers 5

Albert Belle doubled three times and drove in three runs, and Jim Thome and Carlos Baerga homered.

Belle tied a career-high with four of the Indians' 19 hits. Kenny Lofton tripled in the first inning, singled in the second and got a freak-hop single in the third that made it 7-1.

Thome hit a three-run homer in the third, his 12th, off Bob Scanlan (3-4). Baerga led off the fourth with a home run as visiting Cleveland won for the 13th time in 15 games. Bud Black (2-1) pitched 5 2/3 innings.

Tigers 8, Twins 2

John Flaherty homered twice and drove in four runs.

Todd Stottlemyre and Flaherty hit consecutive home runs in the ninth, and Juan Samuel hit a two-run homer later in the inning off Twins reliever Dave Stevens.

Flaherty began the day with two home runs in 96 at-bats. Chad Curtis doubled twice and singled as the Tigers won for the third straight time. Minnesota has lost 10 of its last 12.

Pelipe Lira (2-3) won and Joe Boever got his first save. Brad Radke (2-5) was the loser.

Royals 3, Blue Jays 2 (10)

Jon Nunnally singled off the glove of leaping first baseman Ed Sprague with two outs in the bot-

tom of the 10th inning.

Gary Gaetti drew a one-out walk and Greg Gagne walked with two outs against Darren Hall (0-2). Mike Timlin relieved, and Nunnally's line drive scored pinch-runner Les Norman.

Hipolito Pichardo (3-1) pitched 1 1/3 innings of two-hit relief for the victory.

Blue Jays starter David Cons, the 1994 Cy Young winner with Kansas City, pitched nine innings and struck out eight. Royals starter Mark Gubicza went eight innings, giving up six hits and striking out five.

Rangers 3, White Sox 2

Juan Gonzalez homered for the second straight game, a two-run shot in the eighth inning that gave the host Rangers their ninth win in 11 games.

Gonzalez, who missed 35 games because of back problems, hit his second homer of the season off reliever Jose DeLeon (2-2) to score Will Clark, who reached on a force-out.

Roger McDowell (2-0) pitched the last two innings.

Chicago starter Jim Abbott, who left after walking Jack Voigt to lead off the eighth, allowed seven hits and two runs. (AP)

White Hits for Cycle in Expos' Win

NL ROUNDUP

EVEN FOR a streak hitter such as Rondell White, his performance Sunday was nothing short of extraordinary.

White set a Montreal record with six hits, hitting for the cycle and scoring five runs, as the Expos beat the San Francisco Giants 10-8 in 13 innings. The Giants scored four runs in the ninth to force extra innings.

White went 6-for-7 with a solo homer and two doubles, drove in three runs and stole a base. He became the fourth Montreal player to hit for the cycle.

"Once I get a hit in my first at-bat, I know I'm going to have a good game," said White, who raised his average 44 points to .373. "When I get in a streak, I do pretty well. Usually my homers come close together."

White was 11-for-16 and scored 10 runs in the weekend sweep.

"We've been bragging about him, even before he was playing regularly," said Montreal manager Felipe Alou. "He's got a devastating swing."

White tripled with two outs in the 13th, leading to Tim Laker's two-run triple that gave the Expos a three-game sweep at Candlestick Park for the first time since August 1984. Montreal, which had a season-high 20 hits,

outscored the Giants 30-16 in the weekend series.

Laker's triple off Stephen Mintz (0-1), the seventh Giants pitcher, drove in White and Tony Tarasco, who was intentionally walked.

Gabe White (1-0) was the winner. Darrin Fletcher had four hits, including a homer, and drove in five runs for the Expos. Mike Benjamin had four hits, stole two bases and scored three times for the Giants, who have lost four straight.

"The object of the game is to win," said Benjamin, a utility infielder who raised his average from .150 to .269. "Without the win, it doesn't really mean a lot."

The Giants, trailing 7-0 in the fifth, scored four runs in the ninth to make it 8-0. The tying run scored when reliever Mel Rojas walked pinch-hitter Tom Lampkin on four straight pitches with two outs and the bases loaded.

Glenallen Hill's run-scoring double, Royce Clayton's RBI groundout and an RBI single by J.R. Phillips had pulled the Giants within a run. Hill finished with three RBIs, including a pair of run-scoring doubles.

"It's a big win for us, a confidence builder," Laker said. "We kept our composure. We could have easily rolled over. They definitely had the momentum."

Fletcher hit a three-run homer in the second, and White led off the fourth with his seventh homer.

White had a two-run double and Fletcher added an RBI single in the fifth as the Expos took a seven-run lead.

Cardinals 8, Braves 4

Bernard Gilkey had four hits and scored three runs to lead visiting St. Louis.

Gilkey had a double, three singles and a walk, the eighth four-hit game of his career but first since April 20, 1994, which also came in Atlanta.

Gilkey also had two stolen bases, one RBI and made a diving catch to rob Marquis Grissom of an extra-base hit in the first inning.

Brian Jordan added a single, triple and two RBIs for St. Louis. Reliever John Habyan (2-1) worked three scoreless innings to get the victory, while Tom Henke, the fifth Cardinal pitcher, came in with two on in the ninth to get the final out and record his 12th save.

In his shortest outing since on June 5, 1994, at Los Angeles, loser Steve Avery (1-4) allowed six runs and six hits in 2 1/3 innings.

The loss was Atlanta's seventh in its last 11 games.

Rockies 5, Cubs 1

Dante Bichette extended his hitting streak to a club-record 17 games and Mark Thompson pitched six-plus strong innings.

Bichette's RBI double highlighted a three-run third and

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division					
Philadelphia	28	14	.467	—	
Montreal	25	19	.568	4	
Atlanta	23	19	.548	5	
New York	16	27	.372	12 1/2	
Florida	13	28	.317	14 1/2	

Central Division

Cincinnati	28	14	.467	—	
Chicago	23	19	.548	5	
Houston	19	22	.463	8 1/2	
St. Louis	18	26	.409	11	
Pittsburgh	16	25	.390	11 1/2	

West Division

Colorado	25	18	.581	—	
San Francisco	23	21	.523	2 1/2	
San Diego	20	22	.476	4 1/2	
Los Angeles	20	23	.465	5	

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division					
Boston	26	15	.634	—	
Baltimore	19	22	.463	7	
Detroit	19	24	.442	8	
New York	16	24	.400	9 1/2	
Toronto	16	24	.400	9 1/2	

Central Division

Cleveland	30	11	.732	—	
Kansas City	22	18	.550	7 1/2	
Milwaukee	18	23	.439	12	
Chicago	15	24	.385	14	
Minnesota	12	31	.279	19	

West Division

Texas	26	17	.605	—	
California	25	18	.581	1	
Seattle	23	19	.548	2 1/2	
Oakland	23	20	.535	3	

helped lift the visiting Rockies to their ninth win in 11 games. It also enabled Bichette to match the Dodgers' Eric Karros for the National League's longest hitting streak of the season.

Thompson (2-0), making his second start of the season, scattered six hits, struck out six and walked two over 6 1/3 innings to win his first game since Opening Day. Cubs starter Steve Trachsel (2-4) struck out nine in five innings but walked five and allowed five runs on six hits.

Larry Walker homered for Colorado.

Cubs manager Jim Riggleman and third baseman Steve Buechele were ejected for arguing after a checked-swing strike called by home plate umpire Jerry Meals led

to a Buechele strikeout in the fifth.

Reds 3, Astros 2

Ron Gant homered with one out in the 10th inning to lift Cincinnati over Houston and the Reds earned a four-game series sweep, their first at the Astrodome since 1972.

Gant drove a 3-2 pitch from Todd Jones (3-1) into the left field seats for his 12th homer of the year — and fifth against the Astros. Jeff Brantley (3-0) pitched two scoreless innings to earn the victory.

Houston starter Doug Drabek tied a career high with 11 strikeouts, but was not involved in the decision. (AP)

Full batting and pitching stats, page 11.

Mantle Takes a Walk

Former Yankees Star Makes
First Steps to Recovery after
Liver Transplant

MICKEY MANTLE did something Sunday he hadn't been able to do in more than a week: He took a walk.

As a prescribed part of his recovery from liver transplant surgery last Thursday, the former New York Yankees baseball star got out of bed and walked to a chair.

Mantle's first steps with his new liver came a day after he was transferred out of intensive care to a private room at Baylor University Medical Center.

Dr. Goran Klinmalm, medical director of the Baylor Transplantation Institute, said Sunday that Mantle's mood is "quite cheerful. He really has a good attitude."

"He'll keep walking more frequently," he said. "First, it's around his room, but he could be walking into the hallway today or tomorrow."

The next phase of Mantle's recovery is fighting off likely

attempts by his body to reject the new organ. Klinmalm said Mantle runs a "60-65 percent risk" of having it happen.

The 63-year-old baseball Hall of Famer, whose liver was destroyed by cancer, hepatitis and 40 years of heavy drinking, was rushed back into surgery early Friday to stop bleeding near the transplanted organ he received a day earlier.

Mantle was diagnosed with liver failure after he checked into the hospital May 28, complaining of abdominal pain. An unidentified donor was found on Thursday, two days after a close friend of Mantle went public with his plight.

With the Yankees in the 1950s and '60s, Mantle spent his playing days carousing and breaking curfew with such teammates as Whitey Ford and Billy Martin.

He retired in 1968 with 536 home runs, now eighth on the all-time list. (AP)

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Cricket

Glamorgan Hands Lancashire First Defeat of Season

GLAMORGAN HANDED Lancashire its first defeat of the season in any competition on Sunday when it fiercely defended a small total to win its Sunday League clash at Old Trafford.

The Welsh county bowled and fielded brilliantly after scoring only 162 with four balls remaining of its 40 overs to beat Lancashire by nine runs.

Steve Watkin took three for 28 from eight overs of steady medium pace and effected the run-out to dismiss the dangerous Neil Fairbrother when the left-hander tried a risky single to backward point.

Unusually, two of Sunday's

matches ended in ties.

At Chelmsford in a match reduced to 26 overs due to rain, Jonathan Lewis was run out attempting the second run which would have given Essex victory over Durham.

Both sides finished with the identical score of 116 for nine.

And at Derby the home side needed 14 runs off the final over from left-arm paceman Paul Taylor to reach his victory target of 201 against Northamptonshire.

Needing two from the final ball, Paul Aldred and Andy Harris could only scramble a bye to the wicket-keeper to level the scores. (Reuters)

Sunday League Results (40 overs)

At Canterbury: Kent beat Gloucestershire by five wickets. Gloucestershire 136-8 (Heming 55), Kent 140-5 in 27.1 overs (Heming 55). Kent four points.

At Basingstoke: Hampshire beat Leicestershire by 100 runs. Hampshire 204 (Heming 55), Leicestershire 104 (Heming 55) after 22.5 overs. Hampshire four points.

At Nottingham: Nottinghamshire beat Worcestershire by 61 runs. Nottinghamshire 216-5 (Heming 55), Worcestershire 155 in 32.3 overs (Heming 55). Nottinghamshire four points.

At Old Trafford: Glamorgan beat Lancashire by nine runs. Glamorgan 162 in 39.1 overs (G. Tate 40), Lancashire 153 in 39.1 overs. Glamorgan four points.

At Edgbaston: Warwickshire beat Sussex by 14 runs. Warwickshire 180 (Heming 55), Sussex 166 in 32.3 overs (Heming 55). Warwickshire four points.

At The Oval: Surrey v Somerset abandoned due to rain. Two points each. At Chelmsford: Match reduced to 26 overs due to rain. Essex tied with Durham. Durham 116-6 (Heming 55), Essex 116-6 (Heming 55) in 26 overs. Two points each.

At Derby: Derbyshire tied with Northamptonshire. Derbyshire 200-6 (Heming 55), Northamptonshire 200-6 (Heming 55) in 39.1 overs. Two points each.

Other match (third day): At Cambridge: Middlesex 327-5 (Heming 55) and 104-0 (Heming 55) in 100 overs. Cambridge 104-0 (Heming 55) in 100 overs. Middlesex four points.

At Cambridge: University of Cambridge 104-0 (Heming 55) in 100 overs. Middlesex 327-5 (Heming 55) in 100 overs. Middlesex four points.

At Cambridge: University of Cambridge 104-0 (Heming 55) in 100 overs. Middlesex 327-5 (Heming 55) in 100 overs. Middlesex four points.

Sunday League Standings

Team	W	L	D	Pts
Glamorgan	5	1	0	20
Kent	4	1	0	16
Lancashire	4	1	0	16
Worcestershire	4	1	0	16
Essex	4	1	0	16
Surrey	4	1	0	16
Leicestershire	4	1	0	16
Yorkshire	4	1	0	16
Somerset	4	1	0	16
Derbyshire	4	1	0	16
Durham	4	1	0	16
Nottinghamshire	4	1	0	16
Sussex	4	1	0	16
Warwickshire	4	1	0	16
Hampshire	4	1	0	16
Northamptonshire	4	1	0	16
Middlesex	4	1	0	16
Gloucestershire	4	1	0	16



Soccer

Look on the Bright Side

ENGLAND COACH Terry Venables said there were plenty of good signs for his side despite being well-beaten by world champions Brazil on Sunday in the International Challenge Cup.

England, which hosts the European Championships next year, lost when Brazil came from a goal behind to win 3-1, its biggest victory over England for 31 years.

"There are plenty of plus points and I was very pleased with the way we played in the first half," Venables said. "There is something there for us to build on. After some disappointing performances we got there in the end, nearly. I believe we will be right a year down the line."

"For 60 minutes we did our job right. The free-kick they scored

gave them a lift when they were morally going a bit and then they came into the game."

Brazilian coach Mario Zagalo said: "In the first half we tried to achieve what we managed to achieve in the second. After the first goal from Juninho, England opened up more in defense and we took advantage. We showed we are going the right way for the future."

Brazil's immediate future is the Copa America in Uruguay next month, and Zagalo added: "The result is very important because football is celebrated by victories. The way Brazil played during the second half, I think that is the future of Brazilian football."

"Until Ronaldo scored we were still worried about the outcome."

The introduction of Giovanni was important because of our respect for Paul Gascoigne. Giovanni came on to keep an eye on him."

England skipper David Platt backed up his coach's claims. "I think there is a great deal of optimism, resolution and honor in the England dressing room. We have probably seen enough from our first half performance to realize we have moved forward."

"They changed their game in the second half but it was the free-kick goal that brought them back into the game. We realize we have to have a defensive base and we know that."

Though England came from two goals down in the final two minutes to draw 3-3 with Sweden in midweek, they could find no way back

against the Brazilians in a hard-fought match which ended the week-long four-team tournament.

England last home defeat by such a margin was when West Germany beat them by the same score in a European Championship match at Wembley 23 years ago.

The defeat was also England's first in 10 matches under coach Terry Venables. It stretched Brazil's unbeaten run to 20 matches since November 1993 and earned them the £500,000 first prize for winning the tournament.

Brazil had not beaten England in five meetings since winning 1-0 in London in 1981 and at half-time England must have thought they had a good chance of stretching that record. (Reuters)



County Walsh and Jimmy Adams celebrate as the West Indies won the first Test against England in Leeds on Sunday by nine wickets with a day to spare. The tourists needed only 19 overs and less than two hours to race past the target of 126. The runaway victory signaled a quick start to a West Indies revival after losing the unofficial title as the world's best team. (AP)

Rugby



Four Favorites Heading for Showdowns

It's England vs New Zealand and South Africa vs France in semifinals

ROB ANDREW coolly drop-kicked a last-second goal, then pumping his fist in victory. Jonah Lomu stampeding through Scottish defenders. Gavin Hastings riding on the shoulders of cheering supporters a final time.

Stirring images abounded Sunday as the Rugby World Cup decided its final two semifinal opponents - England and New Zealand - while bidding farewell to defending champion Australia and Scotland.

England avenged its 12-6 loss in the 1991 final by nipping Australia 25-22 on Andrew's dramatic kick in injury time to earn a semifinal clash on Sunday in Cape Town against New Zealand, a 48-30 winner over Hastings and Scotland.

The other semifinal, on Saturday, pits South Africa against France.

Both of the final four matches feature Northern Hemisphere sides against favored Southern Hemisphere opponents as the month-long tournament again proceeded without major upsets.

While not necessarily surprising, England's victory came in a rousing match filled with tension and played at a sometimes frantic pace in Cape Town.

England grabbed a 13-6 halftime lead thanks to a Tony Underwood try on a long dash down the wing, but Australia came back when

Damian Smith leaped high to grab a Michael Lynagh kick and rolled over the try-line a minute into the second half.

From there, Lynagh and Andrew traded penalties and with the score tied at 22 after 80 minutes, the match seemed destined for extra time. Then an injury time line-out in Australian territory brought the ball to Andrew, who calmly boot-ed it 40 meters through the posts and started celebrating.

"It was a dream kick," Andrew said. "I struck it cleanly and watched it sail over the posts - unbelievable."

For Australia, the loss ended hopes of repeating as World Cup champions and caused veteran captain Michael Lynagh and star wing David Campese, the all-time leading test try scorer, to contemplate retirement.

"Disappointment is too light a word to describe the way we feel," Lynagh said of the Wallabies' quarter-final exit after finishing third in 1987 and winning the championship in 1991.

England manager Jack Rowell spoke for anyone who watched, saying: "That's one of the matches of all time, as far as I'm concerned. There were two giants out there."

Across the country in Pretoria, giants of a different nature collided as New Zealand rolled to six

tries in eliminating Scotland and ending the test career of Hastings.

Lomu, the hulking wing who has become the talk of the World Cup, showed his dominance the first time he touched the ball, blasting through Scottish defenders on a 50-meter run that ended with a toss to Walter Little for an easy try. Lomu barreled in for another try as the All Blacks, wearing white due to a color clash with Scotland's traditional blue jerseys, affirmed their status as tournament favorites.

Hastings, bowled over once by Lomu and battered a few other times, kicked three penalties and three conversions to finish with 15 points, giving him a tournament-leading 104 in four matches and a World Cup record 227 total.

Killed, flag-waving supporters carried him on their shoulders after the match, which he confirmed would be his last international after 61 appearances for his country.

"It is with immense pride that I've been captain out here in the World Cup, and captain for the last three seasons," Hastings said. "I guess you put away the bad times and remember the good times."

New Zealand captain Sean Fitzpatrick, who played in his 100th test Sunday, called Hastings "a fantastic ambassador for the sport" who could "hold his head high" in defeat. (AP)

(Above) **LAST-SECOND HEROICS** - England's Rob Andrew (second from left) kicks the crucial drop goal to give England a quarter-final win over Australia.

(Below) **ON THE RAMPAGE** - The running of New Zealand's Jonah Lomu has piqued interest from several NFL teams. (AP)



AP/WIDE WORLD PHOTOS



NBA Playoffs

Houston Knocks at Dynasty's Door

Rockets take virtually insurmountable 3-0 lead in NBA Finals

THE HOUSTON Rockets are more than just a Dream.

If there was ever any doubt that this team is more than just four people who throw the ball to Hakeem Olajuwon, it was erased in a 106-103 victory over Orlando on Sunday night in Game 3 of the NBA Finals.

While Shaquille O'Neal, Olajuwon's counterpart at center, labored to keep the Magic in the game with 11 fourth-quarter points, his help came too little and too late.

But Olajuwon had plenty of assistance. Call it the supporting cast of the reigning and almost certainly future NBA champions.

Robert Horry, Mario Elie and Clyde Drexler provided the lift that's elevated Houston within one game of the first finals sweep since 1959.

Houston can wrap it up at home tomorrow night.

Olajuwon had another big game with 31 points, 14 rebounds and seven assists, but he scored only six points on 3-for-8 shooting in the fourth quarter.

No problem.

With their performances in the playoffs, Horry and Elie are the mayors of "Clutch City."

"You can't guard everything," Elie said. "You can't guard Dream.

You can't guard Clyde. You've got to leave somebody open. When they left me open tonight, I made them pay, and when they left Robert open, he made them pay."

Elie, the one who hit the game-winning 3-pointer in Game 7 against Phoenix in the Western Conference semifinals, scored five of his 17 points in a crucial 37-second span late in the fourth quarter. His two free throws with 3:50 to play put Houston ahead 93-88.

But he fouled Anfernee Hardaway on the next possession, and the two free throws made it 93-90. The next time down, Elie got free for his third 3-pointer and

BOX SCORE

Orlando (103) Grant 9-13 0-0 18, Scott 2-11 3-3 8, O'Neal 11-17 6-11 28, Anderson 4-14 0-0 12, Hardaway 4-10 10-11 19, Shaw 4-12 0-0 14, Turner 0-1 0-0 0, Bowie 2-3 0-0 4. Totals 38-81 19-25 103.

Houston (106) Elie 6-9 2-2 17, Horry 6-11 4-8 20, Olajuwon 14-30 3-5 31, Drexler 9-18 6-10 25, Smith 1-7 0-0 2, Jones 0-0 0-0 0, Cassell 3-9 2-3 9, Chilcutt 0-0 0-0 0, Brown 0-0 2-2 2. Totals 39-84 21-30 106.

Orlando 30 23 22 28 - 103
Houston 28 26 21 31 - 106

3-Point goals - Orlando 8-31 (Anderson 4-12, Shaw 2-5, Hardaway 1-4, Scott 1-9, Turner 0-1, Houston 7-19 (Elie 3-4, Horry 2-5, Drexler 1-3, Cassell 1-3, Smith 0-4).

Fouled out - None.

Rebounds - Orlando 48 (Grant, O'Neal, Anderson 10), Houston 55 (Olajuwon 14).

Assists - Orlando 36 (Hardaway 14), Houston 28 (Olajuwon, Drexler 7).

Total fouls - Orlando 23, Houston 21.

Technical fouls - Orlando illegal defense; Houston illegal defense; Drexler.

Attendance - 16,610.

Houston led 96-90.

O'Neal, who finished with 28 points, 10 rebounds and six assists, followed with four straight points, the last two on free throws to make it 96-94 with 2:26 to go.

Now it was Drexler's turn. The Rocket, without a championship ring, grabbed a long rebound and layup that put Houston ahead 100-94.

"He takes the entire floor with that kind of energy late in the game," Houston coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "It's something you wouldn't expect, especially for a guy that age. The only other guy

who can give you that full package I think is Michael Jordan."

Drexler, who turns 33 this month, finished with 25 points, 13 rebounds and seven assists.

"He fought off the whole team to get the ball a lot of times," Elie said. "He was all over the place. They were huffing and puffing to try to keep up with the old man near the end. Clyde just played his heart out for us."

The trade that looked so risky four months ago now seems a coup that has given the Rockets the boost they needed to get another crown. Now Drexler is one win away from the championship that eluded him in two previous trips to the finals with Portland.

"I'm just so happy that this trade has worked out so well," he said. "I think the third time will be the charm for me."

Nick Anderson, whose shooting touch still hadn't recovered since he missed four free throws in the final 10.5 seconds of Game 1, got it back with a 3-pointer to make it 100-98.

Next up in the hero's role was Horry. He made only one of two free throws with 47 seconds left, then Horace Grant made a jumper to cut it to 101-100. But Horry more than redeemed himself by swishing a 3-pointer with 14.1 seconds to go to put his team ahead 104-100.

Horry scored 11 of his 20 points in the fourth quarter.

Anderson's 28-footer with 2.7 seconds to go, followed by Sam Cassell's miss of one of two free throws, gave Orlando one last chance.

But Hardaway, who scored just four of his 19 points in the fourth quarter, threw up an air ball under pressure at the buzzer.

Anderson and teammate Dennis Scott took nothing but 3-pointers all night. After making his last two, Anderson was 4-for-12, while Scott finished 1-for-9.

CENTER SKIRMISH - Houston's Hakeem Olajuwon goes up for two over the defense of Orlando's Shaquille O'Neal. (Reuters)

Losing that Magic Touch

HOUSTON HIT the big shots and Orlando didn't. That simple sentence explains a 3-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

The Magic hit only eight of 31 3-point attempts and could only watch wistfully as the Rockets hit pressure shots down the stretch.

Shaquille O'Neal did his job, hitting for 28 points with 11 of 17 from the floor and 6 of 11 from the charity stripe, but he didn't get a lot of help from his friends.

Dennis Scott took the loss hardest, bemoaning his 2-for-11 shooting that included only 1-for-9 on 3-pointers.

"We needed to make the 3-point shots because we needed to take the pressure off Shaq. I told Shaq after the game that I let him down. I told both him and Penny I let them down," Scott said of teammates Shaquille

O'Neal and Anfernee Hardaway. "Normally, that's me taking those shots. I'm the one that steps up and hits those shots."

Nick Anderson, trying to overcome his four missed free throws in the final 10 seconds that made him the goat of Game 1, could have been the hero Sunday night when he hit a 28-foot 3-pointer with 2.7 seconds left, cutting Houston's lead to 105-103.

"All I thought was it would keep hope alive," said Anderson, who finished 4-for-14 from the field, 4-for-12 on 3s. "I also thought it would make up for all those shots I'd been missing. Clyde Drexler had his hand dead in my face."

"I've been thinking about all the big shots I made during the season," Scott said. "It seems like I can't make anything now. They're not doing anything complex. I was 2-for-11 and

nine of those I was open."

Brian Shaw scored 19 points off the bench but he could only shake his head over the Magic's dismal shooting (38-for-81).

"The shots were there and we had to take them," Shaw said. "At times, it was almost like they were daring us to shoot out there. We were getting the shots, they just weren't falling like they have been all year and they capitalized on it."

"It's just that things happen," said Anderson, who finished with 14 points. "You won't see us putting our tails between our legs. You just have to keep playing and sooner or later it will all work out."

Can the Magic become the first NBA playoff team to come back from an 0-3 deficit?

"I'm wishing for everything," Anderson said. (AP)

NBA NOTES

SWEEPS - There have been five sweeps in NBA Finals history. Boston swept Minneapolis in 1959, while Milwaukee beat Baltimore in 1971 and Golden State won four straight over Washington in 1975. The Los Angeles Lakers were swept by Philadelphia in 1983 and Detroit in 1989.

ROAD SHOW - There haven't been many better road teams in NBA playoff history than Houston, which set a playoff record with its seventh consecutive road victory in Game 2 and is 9-3 away from home in the postseason.

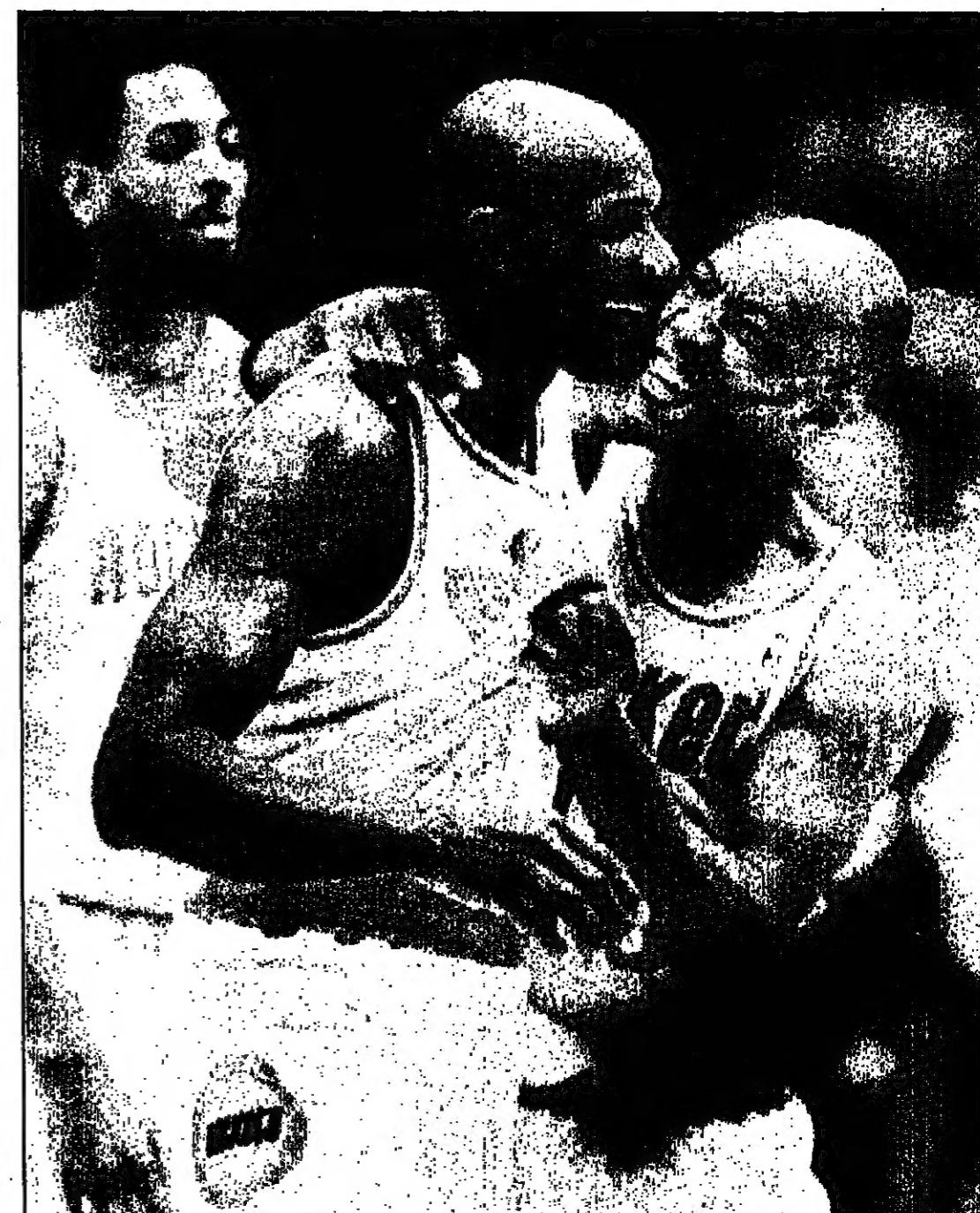
In Game 3, they began working on their performance at The Summit, improving to 5-4 at home. There are plenty of theories why the Rockets have had more trouble at home.

"Sometimes you take a little off because you're so comfortable at home," Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "Maybe it's that we need the hostile crowd to remind you that it's a war."

LOW-SEEDED CHAMPS? - If the sixth-seeded Rockets defend their championship, they'll be the lowest-seeded team ever to win the title. The Celtics won the title in 1969 as the No. 4 team. The Rockets reached the NBA Finals as the No. 6 team in 1981 but lost in six games to the Boston Celtics.

ON THE RISE - Anfernee Hardaway has increased his scoring average in each series leading to the NBA Finals. He averaged 15.5 points against Boston, 18.5 against Chicago and 19.6 against Indiana. In the three games against Houston, he has averaged 25 points.

DUELING BENCHES - Houston lost the battle of the benches for the first time in the series, getting 11 points from reserves to 18 for Orlando. The Rockets' bench, led by Sam



THREE UP - Rockets' Clyde Drexler and Sam Cassell (right) jubilate after Game 3 win. (Reuters)

Cassell, outscored the Orlando bench 47-29 in the first two games. Cassell had a career play-off-high 31 points in Game 2.

RUDY T - Houston is 35-21 in the playoffs under Tomjanovich, a winning percentage of .625.

That's sixth-best in NBA history. Tomjanovich gives credit to assistants Carroll Dawson, Bill Berry and Larry Smith.

NEW-LOOK ROCKETS - The Rockets are playing their final season in the familiar red-and-yellow uniforms. After the playoffs, they'll introduce new uniforms with updated colors and a new logo. The reason? Even as defending champions, the Rockets are only ninth among NBA teams in sales of team merchandise. (AP)

JUNE 13, 1995 7

No Laughing Matter

Racism haunts Aboriginal sportspeople

THE TREATMENT of aboriginal sportsmen and women in Australia is no laughing matter for champion athlete Cathy Freeman.

An idol to her aboriginal people, the dual Commonwealth Games gold medalist has focused world attention on Australia's indigenous population through her track achievements.

Such triumphs have not, however, prevented Freeman from becoming the butt of a disparaging joke that has come to encapsulate the contentious issue of racism in Australian sport.

The joke, which implied that all Aborigines were thieves, was deemed as racist and offensive by the 22-year-old Freeman.

But it was the identity of the joke teller, more than its contents, that caused the most concern.

Arthur Tunstall, the humorist involved, is Australia's senior Commonwealth Games official.

When details of his private conversation were leaked to the media last month, politicians and community leaders echoed Freeman's demand for Tunstall to resign.

"He should not be in a position of leadership. He's an embarrassment," Freeman said of the 73-year-old administrator whose belated apology has failed to appease his critics. Their calls for Tunstall's resignation

have so far remained unheeded.

"We have tried to encourage young Aborigines to take up sport and this type of attitude discourages them," said Freeman, who celebrated her heritage before a world-wide television audience last year when she draped herself in the black, red and yellow aboriginal flag during her victory laps for the 200 and 400 meters at the Commonwealth Games in Canada.

Tunstall criticized her for that and also got himself into further trouble by saying he felt disabled sportsmen at the Games were an embarrassment. He later apologized for both statements.

In a country where discrimination against Aborigines was once legalized, creating a system of virtual apartheid, sport has long offered black people a profile denied them in other walks of life.

But it is the football codes of rugby league and Australian rules, rather than athletics, that have provided the stage for Aborigines to make an impact on Australian sport.

Roughly 100 Aborigines earn their living as soccer players. There are about 300,000 Aborigines in Australia's 17 million population.

The number of aboriginal sportsmen has significantly increased over the past decade but Sydney's Macquarie University politi-



Evonne Goolagong Cawley winning Wimbledon in 1976.

cal professor Colin Tatz says expediency rather than enlightenment is the reason for aboriginal selection.

"The clubs have not suddenly developed a love for Aborigines," Tatz, author of "Obstacles in Race: Aborigines in Sport," said.

"Instead, the clubs have simply begun to make use of a previously largely untapped source of talent in the hope of winning more games."

Whatever the reason, Tatz believes the greater presence of Aborigines at the elite level of sport offers grounds for optimism, creating a sense of unity among the players and a subsequent willingness to speak out

against prejudice.

Earlier this month, three leading aboriginal Australian rules players went public with their complaints of racism, demanding sterner penalties for opponents who resort to racial abuse.

"Taking their lead, black rugby league and soccer players followed, prompting a swift official response."

"The players have certainly indicated to us their belief that enough is enough as to as abuse is concerned," a spokesman for the Australian Football League said.

"We are currently drafting a new code of conduct which will include the offense of racial vilification."

But, according to Tatz, while most Australians tolerate aboriginal sportspeople because of their skills, there is, at best, indifference about their presence.

With some notable exceptions, such as when huge crowds greeted the return of world bantamweight boxing champion Lionel Rose in 1968 and the homecoming of twice Wimbledon champion Evonne Goolagong Cawley, Tatz believes Australia has largely ignored the past sporting achievements of Aborigines.

As an example, he cites the experience of cricketer Eddie Gilbert, a fearsome fast bowler who bowled the great Don Bradman for a duck in 1931 after a gap of 11 years. "I don't think I can remember" bowling I can remember.

Yet, according to Tatz, Gilbert was barred from traveling to games with white players, played only two dozen matches for his state, Queensland, and was never considered to play for his country.

Although Tatz believes there are grounds for optimism in the public's overwhelming sympathy for both Freeman and the AFL players, he argues there is still much to be achieved in eradicating racism from Australian sport.

"A few Aborigines have gained respect through sport but the odds have been made mental. Australia still has some way to go in terms of racial equality."

THE CHEERS of well-wishers rang in Gabriel Ruelas' ears as he walked through the posh casino at Caesars Palace a few hours after defending his 130-pound title against Jimmy Garcia.

Ruelas, though, was in no mood for celebrating. Only a few feet away, tears ran down Manuel Garcia's face as he followed through the casino the fighter who had just beaten his son to within an eyelash of death.

"The father and brother were crying right behind me," Ruelas recalled. "I felt like throwing punches right there at the people congratulating me. I was so enraged."

While fight fans were eager to share in Ruelas' moment of glory, Jimmy Garcia lay dying in a hospital a few miles away.

The surreal scene laid bare the nature of a sport whose brutality fascinates countless fans, yet whose inherent danger can prove deadly.

Four boxers have died in the last 14 months, and at least 38 have been killed in fights since South Korea's Duk Koo Kim died after a 1982 bout with Ray Mancini in the same Caesars Palace ring where Garcia was fatally injured.

Garcia died despite the best of medical foresight, including a ringside neurosurgeon who had him in the operating room within 35 minutes of his collapse in the ring.

"I believe in my heart we did everything right with Jimmy Garcia, but the boy still died," said Marc Ratner, the commission's executive director. "I don't feel defensive about this. Hopefully we can learn something from it."

The American Medical Association Council on Medical Affairs lists the annual number of boxing deaths at 0.13 per 1,000 participants, not out of line with other high-risk sports such as motorcycle racing, parachuting or hang gliding.

Many others, though, end up with some type of brain damage after taking repeated blows to the head. The AMA says three different studies show about three of every four boxers who have had more than 20 professional bouts show some brain deterioration.

"It's not just the deaths but the chronic brain damage that is so frequent," said Dr. George Lundberg, editor of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. "The main point is that blows to the head damage the brain."

Garcia's death has led the Nevada State Athletic Commission, considered the most progressive in the nation, to look at new ways of trying to reduce injuries and deaths in the ring.

Among those will be a study on weight loss before fights and a look at whether fights in which one boxer seemingly has no chance of winning should be stopped before the fighter gets in trouble.

"If it was a perfect world, the kid would have survived, but he didn't," Ratner said. "So we have to reassess everything about that fight and see what we can do differently."

One issue raised in Garcia's death was the weight he lost to make the 130-pound limit before his May 6 fight with Ruelas. Promoter Bob Arum said Garcia's father told him the challenger had to lose 30 pounds, although Ratner said the father told him the fighter only lost 10 to 12 pounds before the fight.

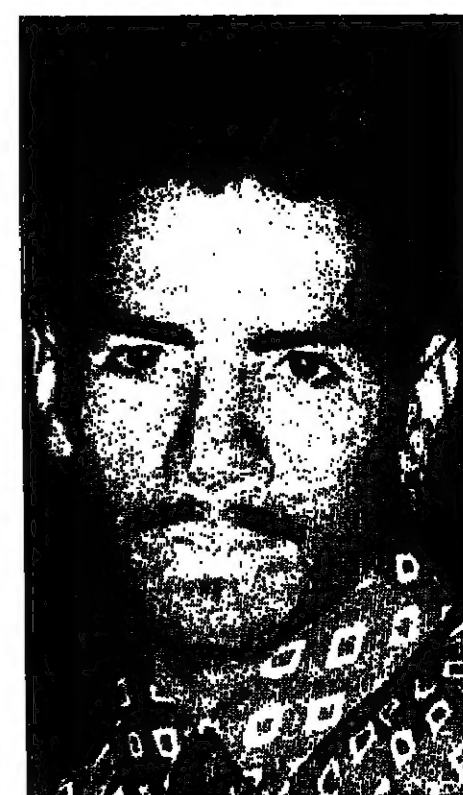
"My theory is he didn't have enough time to replenish the fluid in his brain after taking diuretics to make the weight," Arum said. "His brain didn't have protection."

Doctors, though, have established no direct link between weight loss and brain injury in boxers, although the effect has not been widely studied.

"I don't think weight loss itself makes a difference, but no one has the answer," said Dr. Albert Capanna, the neurosurgeon who operated to remove a blood clot from Garcia's head. "I don't think anyone definitely can say if it does or doesn't."

Those who point to sudden weight loss as a possible factor note that there are few serious head injuries among heavyweights, even though they hit the hardest of all boxers.

Not since 1933, when Ernie Schaaf died after being stopped in the 13th round of a fight with Primo Carnera in New York City,



(Left) Gabriel Ruelas reacts after learning that his blows caused the death of Jimmy Garcia (above). (AP)

To Reduce Boxing Injuries: That is the Question

Is headgear real protection or just window dressing?
Why do heavyweights suffer less brain damage?
Is making weight dangerous to your health?



Medics attend Bulgarian boxer Zvetan Todorov after he collapsed in a fight against Marco Piccarillo at St. Gallen Switzerland last November. Todorov died five days later. (AP)

has a heavyweight been killed in the ring. During that same period, several hundred lighter fighters lost their lives.

"The question is why heavyweights hit like hell and they don't have this cerebral bleeding," Capanna said. "I can't remember a single heavyweight with a blood clot."

Also in question is whether headgear, used now in all amateur bouts, would be effective in preventing injuries to the brain.

Heavyweight champion George Foreman has called for professional boxers to use headgear, but there has been little support

for it. "We might as well ban boxing if that is the case," former heavyweight champion Mike Tyson said about the idea. "It's a fighter's sport. This is a hurt business... In this business, things happen."

Indeed, headgear has not prevented several amateur boxers from suffering blood clot injuries in the brain in recent years. But a study of amateur boxers by Johns Hopkins University shows that it might be proving effective against chronic brain damage, or the punch drunk syndrome.

Dr. Robert Voy, deputy chairman of the medical commission for Olympic boxing and a member of the board of directors of USA Boxing, said that studies of 480 amateur boxers begun in 1986 showed that headgear seemed to reverse the beginnings of brain damage seen in some of the boxers who hadn't used the protective covering before.

Voy, though, said that headgear has many disadvantages, including the fact it absorbs sweat and makes a fighter's head weigh more, increasing the pendulum effect blamed for many brain injuries.

It also gives an opponent a bigger target to hit, and hasn't seemed to be effective against the kind of hard punches that can cause sudden brain injury.

"Statistically, we haven't found yet that headgear has reduced the number of knockouts," Voy said. "That means the jury is still out as to whether headgear could or does prevent the type of injury seen in Jimmy Garcia."

Lundberg, an outspoken foe of boxing, also has his own view on that, calling the use of headgear "equivalent to having referees wear tuxedos."

"It dresses up the sport, but it doesn't do any good," Lundberg said. "Headgear has no benefit except of the conscience of people who think they're doing good, but actually only giving window dressing to the sport."

Capanna said there is danger in all sports, particularly football where players are coached to hit an opponent as hard as they can.

"Nothing is benign," he said. "One day last year I operated on two golf injuries in the same day. One had a subdural hematoma such as the one suffered by Jimmy Garcia from being hit with a golf ball and he later died. Another got hit in the forehead by his brother with a 9-iron." (AP)

Here Today, Down Under Tomorrow

Aussie softball pitcher pitches UCLA to championship, then leaves before semester's end

SHE WENT to class. She passed tests. She really was a Bruin from Westwood with an Aussie accent.

So what, asks Tanya Harding, if she only stayed at UCLA long enough to help win a record-setting eighth NCAA women's softball championship?

"I was not a hired gun," she said. Harding finished her 10-week stay in the US with a 17-1 record and was named the championship tournament's MVP.

One of Australia's top softball pitchers, Harding has been at the center of criticism over how UCLA won the title this spring. She enrolled at the Los Angeles school for one trimester in March, then left at the end of the tournament in May without taking finals.

Back in her homeland in Brisbane, Harding said she and the school followed the rules, and that the protests are nothing but sour grapes.

"What I did wasn't illegal," she said. "I feel bad in a way because if I'd known it was going to cause this much trouble, I probably wouldn't have gone in the first place. I knew there would be a little bit of flak, but I didn't think it would be this bad."

Harding said UCLA cleared her eligibility with the NCAA before she even agreed to enroll.

THE JERUSALEM POST WORLD OF SPORT.

"I went to school, I attended classes and even passed exams to get accepted," she said. "I never ever intended staying four years to get a degree. I made them aware of the date I was arriving and the date I was leaving."

Australian softball officials also rejected claims by rival college officials that Harding went to the UCLA specifically to gain experience for Australia's Olympic campaign. National coach Bob Cradlington said colleges in the US regularly scout in Australia for talent.

"Three off our top eight pitchers are playing in the colleges and All-American. You can bet they'll be back with their checkbooks again next year," Cradlington was quoted as saying by *The Australian* newspaper.

Harding arrived at UCLA on March 22. She enrolled for the minimum courses allowed. She said her priority now was to play for Australia at the 1996 Olympics, and that probably would prevent her returning to UCLA next year to complete her studies.

"Of course they want me to go back," she said. "But my first priority is the national team; and I doubt I'd be allowed to go back because of all their commitments."

(AP)

مكتبة

.366
not
.367

A historian notes a glitch in Ty Cobb's record and knocks one point from his lifetime batting average.

IT HAS been a very bad year for Ty Cobb. First, Hollywood portrayed him rather harshly, in a warts-and-all film that flopped. And now, *Total Baseball*, the official record book of the sport, has launched a frontal attack on his batting average.

History tells us that Cobb batted .367 in 23 glorious seasons with the Detroit Tigers and Philadelphia Athletics. According to *Total Baseball*, history tells us wrong.

This is significant because nobody had a higher lifetime batting average than Cobb. And .367 is etched in the minds of baseball historians, not to mention on Cobb's plaque in Cooperstown.

All that notwithstanding, *Total Baseball* insists the number is wrong, that it should be .366 because of a mistake committed in 1910. And while they were at it, the editors have added a win to Walter Johnson's total, giving him 417, and boosted Tris Speaker's lifetime average from .344 to .345.

There are traditionalists who may not be pleased about this tinkering with long-held, revered records. John Thorn, co-editor of *Total Baseball*, dismisses their complaints in the interest of accuracy. "I am pleased to be considered a revisionist," he said. "I am one who identifies the truth when I see it."

And the truth, Thorn said, is Cobb didn't hit .367.

The mistake, according to *Total Baseball*, can be traced to the 1910 season when Cobb and Nap Lajoie were engaged in a tight race for the batting championship. Lajoie had seven hits against St. Louis in a doubleheader on the final day of the season, some of them bunts invited by the Browns, who deliberately played back because they wanted him to beat the hated Cobb for the title.

When the American League went over to the numbers, the crown went to Cobb, .385 to .384 — the fourth in a string of nine straight and 11 in 13 years for him. Now, a lifetime later, research has uncovered the mistake. Detroit played a doubleheader on September 24, 1910. Cobb had two hits in the second game but somehow scoresheets for the game were entered twice, on September 24 and again on September 25.

Subtract the two extra hits and Cobb's average dips to .383, a percentage point behind Lajoie's .384. *Total Baseball* corrects the average, but chooses not to strip the batting title from Cobb. Thorn's reasoning is that Lajoie's average was skewed by the flurry of bunts hit by Cobb. "We don't enshrine data we know to be false. But we also don't take away awards like batting

NO EXCUSES — Tommy Lee Jones portrays the despised Cobb.

championships. We try to be reasonable and not bound by dogma."

So Cobb keeps the 1910 title, although it probably ought to carry an asterisk. And Cap Anson remains the 1879 National League batting champion, even though his .317 average is 40 points below the .357 Paul Hines hit that season. Anson's average shrunk when the *Total Baseball* detectives removed 30 bogus hits that had been added to his record by a friendly Chicago scorekeeper in an attack of civic pride.

Didn't Anson notice the inflated hit total? Probably. "He wasn't above chicanery to get an edge," Thorn said.

How unusual.

Thorn knows there are critics who would prefer to leave well enough alone and not ask questions about the numbers we all grew up with.

"Sometimes you wonder if you're counting grains of sand on a beach when maybe you should stand back and just enjoy the beach," he said. But he remains determined to set things straight, no matter what the fallout.

"These are not my numbers," he said. "The numbers are what they are."

And for Cobb, without the double dose of that 2-for-3 day back in 1910, the numbers are 4,189 hits and .366.

All that time, Pete Rose thought the target was 4,191.

(AP)



BASEPATH DEMON — Ty Cobb slides into third, doing his best to knock the third baseman down.

Such a Mean Old Man

Ron Shelton's film portrays Ty Cobb warts 'n' all

HAL HINSON RON SHELTON'S amazing new film, *Cobb*, opens with a question passed around a table of balding, middle-aged slob who make up the New York sports press: "Who is the greatest baseball player of all time?"

Because these men are sportswriters, they consider themselves to be the last word on every subject. They never agree on anything, but this time there's a consensus: "Ty Cobb." "Ty Cobb." "Ty Cobb."

Tyrus Raymond Cobb — and not Babe Ruth — was the best all-around athlete ever to play the game. The Babe may have been the game's pin-striped Superman, its beloved Falstaff and eternal home run king. But it was Ty Cobb who took a sunny, lackadaisical game with an almost circuslike atmosphere and transformed it into the aggressive sport that we know today.

The scrappy Detroit Tiger and legendary sumpbitch was everyone's most despised player; wherever he played, he was booed and pelted with debris by fans inflamed by his brawling, taunting style. But Cobb also made baseball a thinking man's game, a contest of tactics and precision timing. Ruth didn't need to think; in Cobb's eyes, he was just some big dumb brute who knocked the cover off the ball.

The public adored Ruth, though, turning a blind eye to his excesses while focusing a searchlight on Cobb's. Cobb would never get over that, and he resented being cheated out of the love and respect he believed he deserved.

As the picture begins, the so-called Georgia Peach is 70, well past his playing days. In fact, he is dying of what appears to be several diseases. Now that the end is fast approaching, he wants to set the record straight about his misunderstood life. So Cobb (Tommy Lee Jones) hires sportswriter Al Stump (Robert Wuhl) to ghost-write his baseball memoir. "Not any of that Sigmund

Freud shit," Cobb instructs him. "But a book about baseball, son. A book about baseball." Stump views Cobb's offer as his last chance to see what the fire of greatness looks like up close.

But after only about a half day of work, Cobb gets a powerful hankering for flesh and companionship. Problem is, the pilot light down below has been out for some time now. All he can do with Ramona (Lola Davidovich) is give her a big wad of cash to spread the word that she had slept with the great Ty Cobb — and that he had been magnificent.

For Stump, this encounter marks a turning point in the relationship between himself and Cobb. Earlier, Cobb had tried to force Stump to write the book the baseball player wanted him to write — basically a hagiographic gospel according to Ty Cobb. Now Stump begins writing two books. One is for Cobb's eyes, and the other deals with everything that Cobb wants left out: namely, that he is a vulgar, out-of-control, and that he is a drug addict.

Jones brings this egregiously unsympathetic character to life, and it's probably safe to proclaim this performance as one of the most definitive by this generation's most fearless actor. For Shelton, Cobb's most striking features are his smoldering, soul-sickened eyes — and Jones captures their barbarous glimmer with an almost disturbing conviction. He portrays a man whose own blood runs like acid through his veins — a human soul in extremis.

This is a baseball movie with virtually no actual baseball footage in it — yet you're as involved with the characters that you're as miss it in the slightest. Cobb is a brilliant film. And with it, Ron Shelton elevates himself to the top shelf of American filmmakers.

(The Washington Post)

AMERICAN LEAGUE INDIVIDUAL BATTING

(Based on 95 plate appearances)

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
Ortiz Cal	148	33	55	6	31.372
Shawhan Sea	147	34	54	8	30.367
Schultz Mil	131	12	48	2	27.366
Basham Bos	137	24	50	2	23.365
McKinnin Min	97	16	34	2	21.351
Calahan KC	94	14	32	2	8.340
Larson Cle	139	28	47	12	32.338
Linton Cle	157	29	53	3	14.338
Gooden Min	146	25	49	0	11.336
McMonroe Tex	146	30	49	2	20.336
Berra Cle	168	28	56	7	29.333
O'Hall NY	87	13	29	5	17.333
Murray Cle	115	25	31	9	20.331
Palmer Tex	154	30	58	9	24.330
O'Leary Bos	110	17	36	2	20.327
DiCarlo Bos	146	23	47	2	20.322
McMurray Tex	147	23	47	7	23.321
Greenwell Bos	156	26	49	3	22.314
Baker Bos	101	26	44	7	27.312
Greene Tex	141	20	44	6	24.312
Carter Tex	119	21	37	5	25.311
Greer Tex	148	27	46	1	33.311
Palmer Bos	106	10	33	0	14.311
Gray Tex	145	17	45	0	11.310
Thorn Cle	129	26	40	1	24.310
Oliver Min	137	17	40	4	20.308
Worthing Sea	134	26	41	8	28.306
McGowan Sea	151	32	46	13	39.305
Thurley Det	92	13	28	2	11.304
Johnson Bos	145	34	44	10	26.303
Wright Bos	132	24	40	7	22.303
Wright Bos	122	16	37	2	19.303
McMurray Tex	109	25	33	8	22.303
Gooden Min	140	25	42	12	32.300
White Tex	157	21	47	4	26.299
Baker Bos	147	22	44	6	23.299
Thorn Cle	131	25	39	9	26.298
Serrano Cle	142	22	48	12	31.298
Ben Bos	101	16	30	2	15.297
Greer Tex	98	19	29	6	17.296
Belle Cle	156	29	46	7	29.295
Sherr Oak	137	22	44	10	30.293
Harting NY	92	8	27	1	12.293
Ortiz Cal	137	22	40	1	18.292
Salmon Cal	148	27	43	1	26.291
Ortiz Cal	151	18	44	5	24.291
Lytle NY	111	14	32	4	19.288
Berra Cle	146	35	42	10	31.288
Wright Bos	125	20	36	2	23.288
Wright Bos	125	20	36	2	17.288
Wright Bos	158	21	45	7	28.285
McMurray Tex	123	14	35	2	17.285
Wright Bos	130	22	37	8	23.285
Wright Bos	186	25	53	0	16.285
Hines Min	114	16	32	3	12.281

AL TEAM BATTING

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Pct
Cleveland	1387	235	407	67	224.293
Texas	1442	225	407	67	224.293
Seattle	1352	224	376	49	221.278
Chicago	1340	205	372	37	191.277
Seattle	1391	228	384	41	221.276
Toronto	1324	195	345	45	187.275
Minnesota	1431	197	394	39	184.275
California	1412	226	381	52	220.269
Philadelphia	1348	191	362	23	180.268
New York	1309	177	346	31	171.264
Philadelphia	1322	198	350	55	189.264
Baltimore	1286	162	334	34	148.259
Philadelphia	1387	227	353	53	215.254
Oakland	1387	200	349	47	191.251

NL TEAM BATTING

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Pct
Colorado	1436	233	400	53	226.285
San Diego	1384	183	373	33	173.269
Cincinnati	1377	207	358	40	196.267
St. Louis	1456	190	387	35	175.265
Philadelphia	1379	176	353	24	162.263
Los Angeles	1440	172	350	35	160.263
New York	1411	184	370	40	175.262
New York	1335	187	346	31	174.259
Chicago	1419	186	354	40	172.258
San Francisco	1419	202	360	48	191.253
Pittsburgh	1419	189	328	29	140.252
Pittsburgh	1414	186	354	37	171.250
Atlanta	1343	196	341	52	188.250
Florida	1325	177	332	31	167.241

AL TEAM PITCHING

	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	SHO	SA
Cleveland	3.76	347	150	128	254	3	16
California	4.13	359	168	134	261	3	16
Kansas City	4.16	326	157	136	210	3	8
Boston	4.36	353	171	136	246	5	8
Seattle	4.61	374	182	162	297	3	11
Milwaukee	4.63	359	179	162	194	2	8
Oakland	4.63	372	184	138	243	2	11
Texas	4.65	417	196	167	236	1	10
Baltimore	4.89	305	185	154	258	0	8
Toronto	5.27	354	196	186	234	4	6
Chicago	5.35	374	201	193	226	1	10
Detroit	5.41	428	217	161	204	1	8
New York	5.41	365	204	143	237	1	7
Minnesota	6.39	445	258	153	253	1	8

NL TEAM PITCHING

	ERA	H	ER	BB	SO	SHO	SA
Philadelphia	3.51	320	140	143	247	4	15
Atlanta	3.54	323	145	129	231	2	8
Los Angeles	3.68	327	153	168	287	3	12
Cincinnati	3.70	360	152	133	238	3	12
Chicago	3.73	332	149	127	250	3	15
Houston	3.90	328	152	135	287	0	7
Montreal	3.98	361	166	107	294	1	17
New York	4.23	388	176	108	257	3	8
San Francisco	4.44	395	186	155	218	4	9
St. Louis	4.43	396	192	147	220	2	11
Florida	4.27	362	192	170	276	0	6
San Diego	4.37	373	192	156	290	2	8
Pittsburgh	4.83	377	183	121	217	1	11
Colorado	5.20	414	214	172	288	0	14

Through Friday's Games

NATIONAL LEAGUE INDIVIDUAL BATTING

(Based on 95 plate appearances)

AB	R	H	HR	RBI	Avg
McWilliams SF	134	27	51	13	35.381
Eisenreich Phi	99	13	36	2	15.364
Bichette Col	161	28	58	8	31.360
Larkin Min	136	30	48	5	24.353
Offenberg LA	145	28	51	1	10.352
Bonilla NY	152	24	52	9	27.342
Karras LA	159	20	54	9	32.340
DBell Hou	154	19	42	2	27.338
Roberts SD	152	26	51	1	14.336
Townsend SD	155	24	52	2	25.335
Castillo Cle	151	25	50	10	31.331
Conine Fla	121	21	40	5	22.331
Dunston Chi	134	15	44	5	26.328
Bonds SF	153	35	50	9	32.327
Gilkey STL	178	27	58	8	30.326
Byrd Anderson Bos	77	11	25	2	11.325
RSanders Chi	142	25	46	7	34.324
Sosa Chi	161	27	52	7	33.323
Alou Min	135	19	43	5	22.319
Zito STL	107	16	34	5	20.318
Sheldahl Fla	140	27	44	6	19.314
Waller Col	136	24	42	7	24.309
Grate Chi	133	27	47	7	32.307
Sanchez Chi	172	25	52	0	10.302
Murphy Min	130	16	39	3	15.300
Girardi Col	140	22	42	1	21.300
Montesi LA	110	23	33	3	14.300
Kings Col	171	35	51	10	28.298
Rogers Min	142	22	42	6	26.296
King Pit	132	18	39	6	35.295
Tarzan Min	140	24	43	6	15.291
Hoyes Min	141	17	41	4	27.291
Miller Hou	124	15	34	1	8.290
Gane Min	126	29	36	1	34.286
Brown Min	155	19	44	2	19.284
Colburn Fla	134	16	38	5	22.284
Rickey LA	162	19	46	1	16.284
Lansing Min	117	16	33	4	21.282
Caminiti SD	149	17	42	7	27.282
McGriff Col	142	27	40	6	27.282
Butler NY	141	21	42	0	12.282
Brogna NY	129	18	36	5	21.279
Correia Min	165	20	46	1	13.279
Cooper SD	140	14	39	1	16.279
Finley SD	165	27	46	3	13.279
Cajigas Col	151	30	42	9	30.278
Lindford STL	162	24	45	4	17.278
Justice Col	90	14	25	4	17.278
Wells Col	133	24	37	0	12.278